

ABSTRACT

The initial deployment of a self-expanding stent is performed by the physician manually retracting the sheath 5 of a delivery system. This provides the physician with complete control of the initial deployment of the stent. Further, once the stent is securely engaged within the parent vessel, the remaining deployment over the remaining length of the stent is performed automatically 10 by retraction of the sheath by a spring. Since the physician simply initiates the deployment of the stent, the deployment is readily performed using only a single hand of the physician.